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Sep 4th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I support broadband competition. You should, too.

Two generations of my family has used a local internet provider. We believe in supporting local businesses. Our provider, like many others, is building new fiber networks and bringing faster speeds in a growing community.

I would much rather use a local company who is sensitive to community needs than major telecommunication firms who are merely looking for larger profits--and spending so much money on lobbyists in Washington and other state capitals. Here in California, the lobbying is particularly egregious.

As you recall, the internet was (mostly) built and developed by DARPA. Why are we allowing communications giants to use something paid for by our tax dollars to create staggering profits for themselves and more ways to separate the rich 10% from the rest of us?

There is a difference between equality and equity. Your job is not to benefit the telecommunications companies but to provide sensible controls that strengthens competition in the rural as well as urban environments.

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